

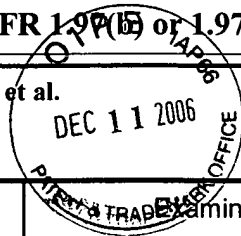
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TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))					Docket No. 17280	
In Re Application Of: Koji Yamaya et al.						
Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.	
10/721,518	November 25, 2003	Matthew J. Kasztejna	23389	3739	5316	
Title: ENDOSCOPE APPARATUS						
<p>Address to:</p> <p>Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p> <p>37 CFR 1.97(b)</p> <p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.</p> <p>37 CFR 1.97(c)</p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;">OR</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).</p>						

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
17280

In Re Application of: Koji Yamaya et al.



Application No. 10/721,518	Filing Date November 25, 2003	Examiner Matthew J. Kasztejna	Customer No. 23389	Group Art Unit 3739	Confirmation No. 5316
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Title: ENDOSCOPE APPARATUS

Payment of Fee

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 19-1013/SSMP as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of _____
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WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile*

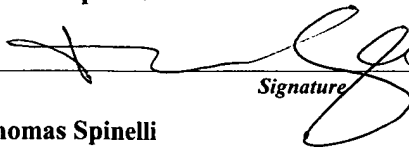
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 December 6, 2006
 (Date)
 Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence
 Thomas Spinelli
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*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.

Dated: December 6, 2006

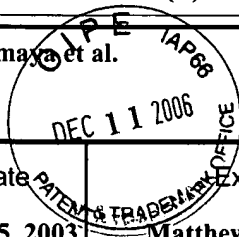

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TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
17280

In Re Application Of: Koji Yamaya et al.



Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/721,518	November 25, 2003	Matthew J. Kasztejna	23389	3739	5316

Title: **ENDOSCOPE APPARATUS**

Address to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

37 CFR 1.97(b)

1. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

37 CFR 1.97(c)

2. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:
- ☒ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);
- OR**
- ☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Koji Yamaya, et al. **Examiner:** Matthew John Kasztejna
Serial No: 10/721,518 **Art Unit:** 3739
Filed: November 25, 2003 **Docket:** 17280
For: ENDOSCOPE APPARATUS **Dated:** December 6, 2006
Conf. No.: 5316

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 23313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

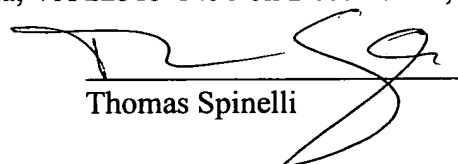
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 07-008450, dated January 13, 1995, together with English-language Abstract;

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 6, 2006.

Dated: December 6, 2006



Thomas Spinelli

2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 03-215239, dated September 20, 1991, together with English-language Abstract; and
3. Japanese Utility Model Application Laid-open No. 48-81688, dated December 29, 1971.

Reference numbers 1 and 3 were cited in an Official Action dated October 10, 2006 issued to the corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-151375 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Reference numbers 1 and 2 were cited in an Official Action dated October 10, 2006 issued to the corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-126727 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references, together with copies of the Official Actions. Please note the other reference cited in the Official Action (2002-151375), namely, Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2001-212078, dated August 7, 2001, was previously cited in Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement dated December 16, 2003. The relevance of the references is described in the Official Actions.

The undersigned attorney hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Docket Number (Optional) 17280		Application Number 10/721,518	
				Applicant(s) Koji Yamaya, et al.			
				Filing Date November 25, 2003		Group Art Unit 3739	

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
 DEC 11 2006

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		07-008450	1/13/1995	Japan				
		03-215239	9/20/1991	Japan				
		48-81688	12/29/1971	Japan				

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.